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**CSM Richard M. Prater**  
**Command Sergeant Major**  
**Gulf Region Division, (Iraq)**  
**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

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Command Sergeant Major Prater is a resident of the New Orleans area and joined the United States Army Reserves in 1987. He attended basic training in 1987 and attended Combat Engineer Advanced Individual Training in 1988 as a Split Trainer in the USAR. Prior to his current assignment, CSM Prater has spent 19 years in a variety of operational assignments with Combat Engineer units from the combat team to Theater Engineer Command level throughout the Army Reserves. He has participated and executed numerous operations and exercises in the USACE, CENTCOM and SOUTHCOM areas of responsibility.

CSM Prater is a Professional Engineer graduating from the University of Missouri in 1998. CSM Prater's military education includes the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy class 32, Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer Course, Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course, Primary Leadership and Development Course, Battle Staff Non-Commissioned Officer Course, Joint Humanitarian Operations Course, Joint Engineer Operations Course, the Sapper Leader Course, and the Army Recruiter Course.

CSM Prater's awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal w/one oak leaf, the Army Commendation Medal w/one silver oak leaf, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal w/one silver and three oak leaf clusters, the Army Good Conduct Medal (1 silver knot), the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal w/1 bronze star, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal w/bronze hour glass and "M" devices, the Army Gold Recruiting Badge w/three sapphire achievement stars and the Sapper Leader Tab. CSM Prater is a recipient of the Army Engineer Association's Bronze de Fleury medal.

CSM Prater's previous assignments are:

1987-1990 Co D, 245th Engineer Battalion (Wheeled), New Orleans, LA – Assistant Operations Sergeant  
1990-1994 US Army Recruiting Battalion, St. Louis, MO – USAR Field Recruiter  
1994-1998 Co B, 478th Engineer Battalion (Mechanized), Conway, AR – Operations Sergeant  
1998-2000 Co C, 489th Engineer Battalion (Mechanized), Ashland, KY – Operations Sergeant  
2001-2005 HQ, 841st Engineer Battalion (Wheeled), Miami, FL – Bn Operations Sergeant  
2005-2008 HQ, 416th Theater Engineer Command, Darien, IL – G3 Sergeant Major

CSM Prater and his wife reside in the Chicago Suburbs and have two children.